# Cook County at a Glance















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January 22, 2019

#### To the residents of Cook County:

Cook County government plays a pivotal role in serving and supporting the needs of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County. We oversee the criminal justice system, provide healthcare to all regardless of the ability to pay, build and maintain critical infrastructure and administer property taxes. Under my administration, the Offices Under the President (OUP) provides many direct services, as well as supports fellow Cook County offices in achieving operational excellence. As we do every year, we would like to take this time to reflect on improved services, notable achievements and operational milestones in 2018.

The need for a caring and compassionate government has never been greater. County government provides a crucial safety net that protects and cares for residents when other systems fail. In 2018, we kept that safety net intact by providing grants through the Justice Advisory Council and Bureau of Economic Development, funding employment programs for opportunity youth and opening a new Professional Building at Stroger Hospital to replace the aging Fantus Clinic.

We also reformed and reshaped Cook County government and came into full compliance with the Shakman Consent Decree, a 50-year-old lawsuit that alleged widespread political patronage. This momentous achievement reflects our commitment to transparency and accountability.

This year we released the Cook County Policy Roadmap: Five-Year Strategic Plan for Offices Under the President, the first strategic plan since my 2011 transition plan. The Policy Roadmap identifies the principles that will guide our activities, including a focus on racial equity to ensure that all Cook County residents have opportunities to prosper, participate and reach their full potential no matter their race, gender, geography or socio-economic status. This ambitious plan is organized into six policy priorities: health and wellness, economic development, criminal justice, environmental sustainability, public infrastructure and good government.

As we reflect on the great work all OUP team members have and will continue to carry out, the following sections highlight just some of the notable successes throughout 2018.

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Sincerely,

Toni Preckwinkle

Cook County Board President

## Cook County Policy Roadmap

In November, we officially released the Cook County Policy Roadmap: Five-Year Strategic Plan for Offices Under the President. This comprehensive, ambitious plan establishes a mission, vision, foundational values, objectives and strategies in six key policy priorities. Moving forward, we will align our improvements and services with these policy priorities to streamline efforts and maximize impact. The Policy Roadmap was developed throughout 2018 in partnership with many organizations and incorporates feedback from thousands of residents, Cook County employees and community organizations.

# **6 POLICY PRIORITIES**29 OBJECTIVES 131 STRATEGIES



# Healthy © Communities

Health and Wellness

#### Goal

Improve the physical, mental and social wellbeing of Cook County residents and communities.





Cook County Health (CCH) opened the new Professional Building, a nine-story outpatient clinic providing a variety of health services. CCH also opened a dedicated Women and Children's Center at Stroger Hospital and unveiled a spectacular community-created mosaic (close-up above) at the opening.

Low-cost rabies clinicsAnimals vaccinated

In June, the Department of Real Estate spearheaded the beginning of construction to redevelop the long-vacant Old Cook County Hospital (photo above), a beautiful beaux-arts building with historical landmark status. This building will provide amenities to residents of the area and patients at nearby Stroger Hospital.

The Department of Adoption and Family Supportive Services (DAFSS) reduced the average number of days for adoption submissions over FY2017 and right-sized caseloads so resources are maximized and efficient. DAFSS surpassed the FY2018 target average of 25 cases per caseworker, trending toward 14 cases per caseworker.

14 Cases per worker

The Department of Animal and Rabies Control held 37 low-cost rabies and microchip clinics throughout the County for a total of 4,123 animals vaccinated. The department also sponsored professional growth classes for animal wardens, community service officers and law enforcement, taught by the National Association of Animal Control Officers. More than 90 attendees from 10 municipalities and 15 animal control agencies participated.

# Vital Communities

Economic Development

#### Goal

Pursue inclusive economic and community growth by supporting residents, growing businesses, attracting investment and nurturing talent.



Through the work of the Calumet Manufacturing Industry Sector Partnership, Cook County leveraged more than \$500,000 in supplemental funds to support workforce training, increase sales for participating businesses and strengthen relationships between local schools and manufacturers.

The Bureau of Economic Development (BED) held more than 65 events to promote careers in manufacturing, including organizing a bus tour for south suburban high school guidance counselors to local manufacturers in the region. In the photo above, President Preckwinkle visits students on Manufacturing Day.

\$10M Federal funds leveraged to build units of affordable housing in Harvey, Chicago Heights, Park Forest and Robbins.

Continuing a special focus on the south suburbs, BED invested \$10 million to ensure affordability of 556 units in the south suburban communities of Harvey, Chicago Heights, Park Forest and Robbins. BED also participated in a leadership group including private, public and civic leaders to develop a framework for the creation of a South Suburban Development Authority to lead to more strategic planning and investment for the south suburbs.

In 2018, the Chicago Regional Growth Corporation (CRGC) launched to further the region's collective economic growth. BED provided assistance and \$75,000 in support. Forming a corporation will greatly expand the impact of this partnership with the surrounding counties to provide export assistance and draw businesses to the region.

Tax incentives resulted in an estimated

\$247M in capital investment and jobs created and supported.

## Safe and Thriving Communities Criminal Justice

#### Goal

Create safe communities and an equitable and fair justice system for all residents.



Daley Plaza along with the City of Chicago OEMC (above) and other community partners.

#### **Law Library Highlights**

Satisfaction 91% sausiaciic..
rating from patrons Public educational programs Increase in Westlaw subscriptions

The Bureau of Technology (BOT) rolled out a new Automated Court Reminder System (ACRS) in 2018. Cook County's new Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) provides the automated calling features of the new system and communicates with the databases of the County's public safety agencies to notify defendants of upcoming court dates, times and locations. ACRS has the potential to make a tremendous difference in communities with high rates of involvement in the criminal justice system.

The Medical Examiner's Office (MEO) and BOT partnered to create first-of-theirkind interactive dashboards, maps and an open data-set providing the public with a geographic visualization of every MEO case since 2014. This open data set earned Cook County several national awards.

#### **Justice Advisory Council Grant Highlights**

Grants were awarded in three program areas: Violence Prevention, Recidivism Reduction and Restorative Justice.

Providers serving all 17 districts 6,750 Individuals served Total grants

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) partnered with the Cook County Forest Preserve Police and the Sheriff's Department to train more than 1,900 officers from 30 suburban police departments to fight the opioid crisis. Officers were trained to administer Narcan when they encounter an opioid overdose, with DHSEM providing funding to purchase this medication for participating agencies.

> Officers trained from suburban police departments

# Sustainable (3) Communities

Environmental Sustainability

#### Goal

Support healthy, resilient communities that thrive economically, socially and environmentally.

The Department of Environment and Sustainability (DES) partnered with the Bureau of Technology to implement power management policies for all Offices Under the President in 2018.

148
vehicles
8%
reduction

The County vehicle fleet has been downsized by 148 vehicles, an 8 percent reduction.

DES received the highest total federal brownfield grants amount in the nation in 2018 (\$1.3 million) to expand the brownfield redevelopment program to the south suburbs and to seed a revolving loan fund for site cleanup and remediation.

Cook County reduced greenhouse gas emissions by

**32**%

between 2010 and 2017,

ahead of 18%.

Through the Bureau of Asset Management (BAM) Green Buildings Program, the County reduced carbon emissions by 10 percent in 2018, reduced water usage by 6 percent (the equivalent of 91 Olympic-size swimming pools) and avoided utility costs of more than \$4 million per year from energy efficiency projects. In the photo above, Jamie Meyers, an energy manager in BAM, answers questions about energy efficiency at an outreach event.

DES created online systems for permits and inspections and simplified the process for residents and families in suburban Cook County so they can apply and pay for permits online, eliminating the need to travel downtown.

# ††**20%**††

The Cook County Board of Commissioners approved purchasing Green Energy certified renewable energy certificates (REC's) sourced from wind generation equivalent to 20 percent of its electricity needs for 2019 and 2020. This action moves the market, and the County, away from reliance on fossil fuel power plants, which contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

## 

Public Infrastructure

#### Goal

Provide an innovative infrastructure that will change how we live, work and connect.



34 Invest in Cook projects funded in 2018.

\$33.8 of funding including federal, state and local matches.

34% of funding focused on south suburbs.

The Invest In Cook program administered by the Department of Transportation and Highways (DOTH) advances Connecting Cook County: 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan by making awards across the County, with a special focus on the south suburbs. All funded projects meet at least two priorities set in Connecting Cook County, and 22 of the 34 projects in 2018 support at least one of the top two priorities of the plan. The south suburbs received 34 percent of funding across 10 projects. DOTH has set a target of 38 projects for FY2019, a 12 percent increase over FY2018.



This year, Cook County's investment of \$77.75 million, as the newest member of the CREATE partnership, leveraged a \$132 million federal grant to vastly improve the 75th Street Corridor (photo above) in Chicago. This grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation advances a \$474 million nationally significant project. To be completed in 2025, this project will help separate several freight and passenger rail lines on Chicago's South Side that have the unfortunate distinction of being the most congested rail bottleneck in Cook County and the nation.

The Bureau of Asset Management (BAM) convened a new Public Land Use Group with the Bureau of Economic Development, Department of Transportation and Highways, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Cook County Land Bank Authority and Housing Authority of Cook County to explore collaboration opportunities. As a result of that initial convening, BAM provided technical expertise to the Forest Preserves in developing their sustainability plan and all partners agreed to participate in a Request for Proposals (RFP) for community solar. Learn more about RFPs at www.cookcountyil.gov/CommunitySolar.

## 

Good Government

#### Goal

Ensure that Cook County provides responsive, transparent services and develops a thriving, professional workforce that reflects the communities served.



#### **Human Resources Highlights**

200 Trainings for County staff270% Increase in number of veterans hired



Cook County reduced the preliminary budget gap to \$82 million this year, the smallest gap since President Preckwinkle took office.



The Department of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the Bureau of Technology unveiled "Cook Central" – a mapping and geographic data hub for sharing information with the public. Available data include map layers such as transportation infrastructure, recreation, housing, business and manufacturing locations, along with many other interactive maps.

Visit www.cookcountyil.gov/CookCentral to explore.

Through a combination of fiscal prudence led by the Department of Budget and Management Services and with the advent of the Affordable Care Act, Cook County has reduced the direct healthcare tax allocation to the hospitals system from \$389 million in 2010 to \$101 million in 2019. This has been done while still providing over a half-billion dollars in uncompensated charity care to County residents.

## **Cook County Health Tax Allocation** (\$ in millions)



In 2018, Offices Under the President adopted a new mission, vision and foundational values:

## Mission

To serve as a good steward of public resources by building equitable and sustainable communities for all residents.

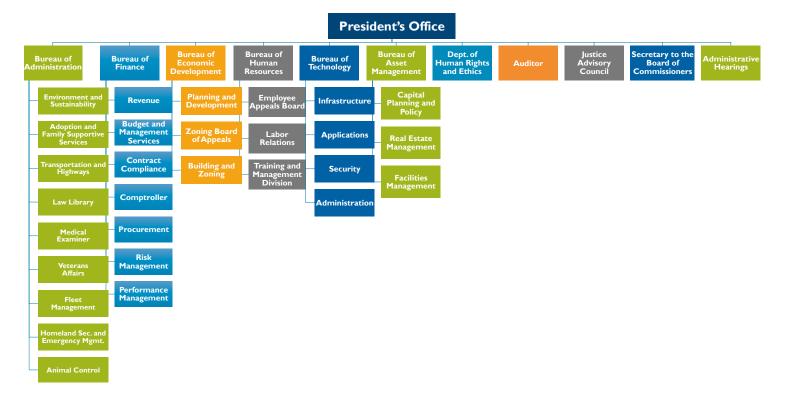
## Vision

To be a leader in building vibrant, sustainable and inclusive communities where people want to live, learn, work and play.

## **Values**

Equity • Engagement • Excellence

# Organizational Chart Offices Under the President





# Toni Preckwinkle President Cook County Board of Commissioners

Alma E. Anaya Luis Arroyo, Jr. Scott R. Britton John P. Daley **Dennis Deer** Bridget Degnen Bridget Gainer Brandon Johnson Bill Lowry Donna Miller Stanley Moore Kevin B. Morrison Sean M. Morrison Peter N. Silvestri Deborah Sims Larry Suffredin Jeffrey R. Tobolski

#### **Connect With Us**





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